

# INFORMATION REPORT

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1. The initial combat success of the North Korean armies in the invasion of the Republic of Korea may be attributed to a group of fanatical Soviet-Korean Communists, highly trained for combat. These men are elements of the original KIM IL-song guerrillas who retreated into the USSR when they were dispersed by the Japanese in Manchuria in 1941.
2. Approximately 4,800 Korean guerrillas were assembled in Khabarovsk in the late spring of 1941 and, after screening, were assigned for training in the USSR as follows: 30 to the military academy, 50 to officer candidate schools, 500 to signal school, 200 to the air force, 1,800 for cultural worker training, and 1,500 to HCO school. Most of these men were graduated from their respective schools throughout the USSR in July 1943. The majority were then sent to the Kazakh and Kirgiz SSR and later in the year were assimilated into Soviet army units fighting against Germany. On 20 May 1945, approximately 4000 of these Koreans were transferred from Germany to the Soviet 25 Army in the Far East.
3. Sometime early in 1943 KIM IL-song died, and his name and power were transferred to his nephew, KIM Son-chu, the present KIM IL-song.
4. Most of the 4000 Korean troops came to North Korea, mostly to Pyongyang, with the Soviet 25 Army or as elements of the NKVD troops. Within a few months after their arrival in August and September 1945, the Koreans were in civilian clothes and working throughout North Korea on Communist propaganda and the organization of Communist cells.
5. This group subsequently became the controlling nucleus within the North Korean Labor Party and the general staff of the North Korean People's Army when that was formed in 1947. All the members of this group were members of the Chinese Communist Party and a few of the elite were also taken into the Soviet Communist Party (VCPb).
6. The field grade officers belonging to this group were informed of the plans for the invasion of South Korea by at least early June 1950.
7. Some of the members of this clique (number and identities undetermined) are believed to have been captured by UN forces.

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